

Elyot states, "....that a noble child, by his owne naturall disposition, and not by coercion, may be induced to receive perfect instruction in these sciences....as a secrete pastime, or recreation of the wittes, late occupied in serious studies."¹ On this subject Chesterfield writes thus interestingly, "There are likewise many valuable remains of the remotest antiquity (Venice), and many fine pieces of the Antico Moderno; all which deserve a different sort of attention from that which your countrymen commonly give them. You will, I am sure, view them in another light; you will consider them as you would a poem to which they are akin. You will observe, whether the sculptor has animated the stone, or the painter his canvas, into the just expression of those sentiments and passions which should characterise and mark their several figures. You will examine, likewise, whether in their groups there be a unity of action, or proper relation; a truth of dress and manners. Sculpture and painting are very justly called liberal arts; a lively and strong imagination, together with a just observation, being absolutely necessary to excel in either; which, in my opinion, is by no means the case of music, though called a liberal art."²

The Sixteenth century was a period of extensive exploration and discovery. Naturally, interest was awakened or quickened in geography, or cosmography as it was then called, in astronomy and in geometry. Many courtiers were actually leaving the court and

1. The Boke Named the Governour, p 31.

2. Chesterfield's Letters to His Son, p 235, Letter CLXXXV.